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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,788	01/11/2002	Charles William Worrell	RCA 89608	6398

7590 09/09/2005

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EXAMINER	
VU, TRISHA U	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2112	

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/030,788	WORRELL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Trisha U. Vu	2112	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 June 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5 and 7-13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) *6* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *11 January 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *05-26-05*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-13 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 2-3 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 2 recites the limitation ISO/7816 card and claim 3 recites NRSS card. Since NRSS cards comprises to types of cards: type A (e.g. ISO/7816) and Type B (e.g. PCMCIA card), thus it is unclear in claim 3 what type of card Applicant intended to claim. In case the NRSS card being of type A (ISO/7816), claim 3 would be identical to claim 2. Therefore, Applicant needs to specifically point out the type of the NRSS card. The same argument applies for claims 12 and 13.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5 and 7-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chaney (5,852,290).

As to claim 1, Chaney discloses a computer controlled device operable using an integrated circuit card of a first type or of a second type (smart card 180) (Fig. 1), the

device comprising: a card reader (190), coupled to a microcontroller (160), wherein the card reader receives the IC card, said card reader having means for applying a first signal (reset) to at least one of the operational contacts of the IC card that is placed in said card reader; wherein the IC card of the first type responds (by answer-to-reset ATR) differently to the first signal than the IC card of the second type (when there is no answer to reset) (col. 12, lines 12-23), at least one of the IC cards producing a distinct second signal in response to the first signal; means for determining whether the IC card in the card reader has produced the second signal; and wherein means are provided for one of blocking and enabling respective signal paths associated with selected ones of said operational contacts, in response to said determining means (deactivation of contacts when no ATR response) (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23). Since Chaney discloses the card is in accordance with ISO 7816, therefore it must be in full compliance with ISO 7816 Specification, and additional references have been cited below for ISO 7816. According to ISO 7816 Specification, transmission between the card and card reader is established using the following steps: 1) a card reader would send reset signals to the card, 2) the card would send a answer to reset ATR to ***identify the card type*** and indicate the desired bitrate for further communication. If ATR is not returned in the prescribed time, the reader begins a sequence to power down the card with ***deactivation of the contacts*** (note:

"The Design of a Smart Card Interface Device", Chapter 4: The ISO 7816 Standard, pages 1-9, http://www.cs.uct.ac.za/Research/DNA/SOCS/rchap4.html;

"ISO 7816-3 Smart Card Standard: Part 3: Electrical Signals and Transmission Protocols", pages 1-18, http://www.cardwerk.com/smartcards/smartcard_standard_ISO7816-3.aspx; and

"Pirate decryption", pages 1-8, especially Section: ISO7816 smartcard terminology, http://www.answers.com/topic/pirate-decryption).

As to claim 2, Chaney further discloses one of said cards of the first type and of the second type is an ISO/7816 card (col. 7 lines 21-35).

As to claim 3, Chaney further teaches one of said cards of the first type and of the second type is an NRSS card (col. 7 lines 21-35, and as explained in the ***35 USC § 112*** rejection above, ISO7816 is a type of NRSS card)

As to claim 4, Chaney further discloses said card reader applies the first signal (reset) to an input/output contact of the IC card and monitors whether the IC card produces the second signal (ATR) at the input/output contact of the IC card (col. 10 lines 12-23).

As to claim 5, Chaney further discloses at least one of the means for producing, the means for determining and the means for blocking is contained in an interface controller, and wherein said operational contacts comprise a connector coupled to said interface controller, for providing a conductive path between said interface controller and the IC card (Fig. 1).

As to claim 7, Chaney teaches a method of providing an interface for an integrated circuit card of a first type or of a second type (e.g. smart card 180) (Fig. 1), the IC card having operational contacts and responding differently to signals applied to their

respective operational contacts (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23), the method comprising the steps of: providing one reader (card reader 190) having operational contacts for receiving the IC card; accepting an integrated circuit card into the reader; determining whether the integrated circuit card in the reader is a card of the first type or a card of the second type by subjecting the card in the reader to a signal (reset signal) and determining whether a responsive signal (answer to reset ATR) from the card is characteristic of a card of the first type or a card of the second type (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23); and implementing an interface for the identified IC card, wherein at least one signal path to predetermined ones of the operational contacts is enabled, or at least one signal path is disabled (deactivation of the contacts), as a result of whether the responsive signal was determined to be characteristic of the first type or the second type (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23). Since Chaney discloses the card is in accordance with ISO 7816, therefore it must be in full compliance with ISO 7816 Specification, and additional references have been cited below for ISO 7816. According to ISO 7816 Specification, transmission between the card and card reader is established using the following steps: 1) a card reader would send reset signals to the card, 2) the card would send a answer to reset ATR to ***identify the card type*** and indicate the desired bitrate for further communication. If ATR is not returned in the prescribed time, the reader begins a sequence to power down the card with ***deactivation of the contacts*** (note:

"The Design of a Smart Card Interface Device", Chapter 4: The ISO 7816 Standard, pages 1-9, http://www.cs.uct.ac.za/Research/DNA/SOCS/rchap4.html;

"ISO 7816-3 Smart Card Standard: Part 3: Electrical Signals and Transmission Protocols", pages 1-18, http://www.cardwerk.com/smartcards/smartcard_standard_ISO7816-3.aspx; and

"Pirate decryption", pages 1-8, especially Section: ISO7816 smartcard terminology, http://www.answers.com/topic/pirate-decryption).

As to claim 8, Chaney further teaches the signal is selected such that a card of one of said first and second types transmits a reply signal (ATR) in response to the signal and a card of the other of said first and second types is non-responsive to the signal (no answer-to-reset signal) (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23).

As to claim 9, Chaney further teaches the signal is a reset signal (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23).

As to claim 10, Chaney further teaches said implementing step comprises the step of disabling selected contacts (deactivation of contacts) of the IC card if said determining step identifies the IC card as a card of one of said two types (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23).

As to claim 11, Chaney further teaches said implementing step comprises the step of enabling selected contacts of the IC card if said determining step identifies the IC card as a card of one of said two types (col. 7 lines 21-35 and col. 10 lines 12-23).

As to claim 12, Chaney further discloses one of said types is an ISO/7816 card (col. 7 lines 21-35).

As to claim 13, Chaney further teaches one of said types is an NRSS card (col. 7 lines 21-35, and as explained in the ***35 USC § 112*** rejection above, ISO7816 is a type of NRSS card).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: claim 6 includes the limitation of a buffer coupled between said interface controller and said connector, for blocking and enabling a signal to pass along a conductive path, the buffer being responsive to a signal from said interface controller, which is not shown by the prior art of record in the combination as disclosed and claimed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trisha Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3643. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur and alternate Fri 8:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rehana Perveen can be reached on 571-272-3676. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Trisha Vu
Examiner
Art Unit 2112

uv

Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner